

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 03249 290359Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 /087 W

----- 054007

R 281630Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1427

AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 3249

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SHUM, GT

SUBJECT: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL VISIT TO GUATEMALA

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED TELEGRAM APRIL 27 REQUESTING APPOINTMENT FOR MICHAEL MCCLINTOCK, RESEARCH DEPARTMENT, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT IN LONDON, AND DR. KURT MADLENER OF MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE, WEST GERMANY. LATER SAME MORNING MCCLINTOCK, WHO IS US CITIZEN CALLED FROM GERMAN EMBASSY TO ARRANGE APPPOINTMENT.

2. WHEN AI REPS MET WITH EMBOFFS APRIL 27, THEY SOUGHT TO FIND OUT HOW THE EMBASSY VIEWED POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN GUATEMALA. EMBOFFS GAVE A HISTORICAL REVIEW OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION, EMPHASIZING THE LONG HISTORY OF BOTH ORDINARY AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE, BUT ACKNOWLEDGING THAT INCIDENCE OF VIOLENCE HAD HAD BOTH PEAKS AND VALLEYS. POLITICAL VIOLENCE REACHED ITS HIGHEST PEAK DURING THE INSURGENCY AND COUNTER-INSURGENCY OF THE MID-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GUATEM 03249 290359Z

SIXTIES.

3. AI REPS OBSERVED THAT GUATEMALA HAD A REMARKABLY FREE PRESS AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME FALLING OFF OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN THE PAST YEAR. EMBOFFS AGREED, SAYING THAT THIS WAS PARTLY DUE TO POLICY AND CHARACTER OF PRESIDENT AND PARTLY DUE TO GENERAL REDUCTION IN POLITICAL TENSION (I.E., ABSENCE OF ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN AND RELATIVE ABSENCE OF GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES) WHICH HAD COINCIDED WITH FIRST TWO YEARS OF HIS ADMINISTRATION.

4. AI REPS ASKED ABOUT PRESENT GUERRILLA SITUATION, AND WERE TOLD THAT ONLY TRULY ACTIVE GROUP CALLS ITSELF THE EJERCITO GUERRILLERO DE LOS POBRES, EGP, AND, WHILE SMALL, HAS APPARENTLY BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR HERNANDEZ AND RAMIREZ ASSASSINATIONS.

5. AI REPS DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO THE US ROLE IN ASSISTING GUATEMALAN POLICE AND MILITARY OFFICIALS. THEY ASKED ABOUT THE PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM AND ABOUT THE NEW GUATEMALAN POLICE ACADEMY, WHICH THEY UNDERSTOOD WAS RECEIVING 1 MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR FROM THE USG. EMBOFFS EXPLAINED THAT THE PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM HAD BEEN ABOLISHED IN 1974, BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT POLICE ACADEMY HAD BEEN PARTIALLY BUILT WITH AID FUNDS. ALL MONEY HAD BEEN OBLIGATED BEFORE THE 1974 CUTOFF DATE, AND NO FUNDS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED SINCE THEN.

6. QUESTIONS ON US ROLE IN MILITARY TRAINING WERE LESS DETAILED. DR. MADLENER SEEMED RATHER TAKEN ABACK WHEN INFORMED THAT TWO PROMINENT GUATEMALAN ARMY COLONELS HAD RECEIVED THEIR ADVANCED TRAINING IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY.

7. AI REPS DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER THEY WERE PREPARING ANY INITIATIVE OR MERELY FAMILIARIZING THEMSELVES WITH THE LOCAL SITUATION. THEIR NEXT APPOINTMENT WAS A CALL AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.
ANDREZI

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GUATEM03249
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760164-0034
From: GUATEMALA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760412/aaaaajiv.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 SEP 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 SEP 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL VISIT TO GUATEMALA
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, OTRA, GT, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE, (MCCLENTOCK, MICHAEL), (MADLENER, KURT)
To: STATE
ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006